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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/028,077	12/21/2001	Michael Farnwald	RA001C14	1724

7590 05/21/2002  
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EXAMINER	
AUVE, GLENN ALLEN #6	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2181

DATE MAILED: 05/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/028,077

Applicant(s)

FARMWALD ET AL.

Examiner

Glenn A. Auve

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 151-195 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 189-195 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 151, 152, 157, 158, 160-162, 166, 168-170, 172-179 and 182-188 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 153-156, 159, 163-165, 167, 171, 180 and 191 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 21 December 2001 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3,4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 151,152,157,158,160-162,166,168-170,172-179, and 182-188 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by applicant's admitted prior art.

As per claims 151,152,157,158,160-162,166,168-170, and 172, applicant's admitted prior art shows a memory device comprising a plurality of sense amplifiers coupled to an array of memory cells and input receiver circuitry that samples an operation code synchronously with an external clock signal, with the op code including precharge information that is used to control the automatic precharging of the sense amplifiers after the data is sensed (at least for example in col. 10 of U.S. Pat. No. 5,638,334 which is based on the same ancestor application and includes the same specification as the present application, wherein the operation of "conventional DRAMs" is explained with regard to how precharging is done and controlled. This description of the admitted prior art appears read directly on applicants' claims.) Applicants' admitted prior art shows all of the elements recited in claims 151 and 166. The dependent claims 152,157,158,160-162,168-170,172, include limitations which are also shown in applicant's discussion of conventional memories or are inherent in such memory devices.

The method claims 173-179 and 182-188 are similar to the apparatus claims rejected above. As per claims 173 and 182, applicants' admitted prior art shows issuing a first operation code to the memory device that indicates that the memory device output data read from the array of memory cells; and precharging sense amplifiers used to read the data, wherein the

precharging is done automatically after the data is read; and receiving the data from the memory device (at least for example in col. 10 of U.S. Pat. No. 5,638,334 which is based on the same ancestor application and includes the same specification as the present application, wherein the operation of "conventional DRAMs" is explained with regard to how precharging is done and controlled. This description of the admitted prior art appears read directly on applicants' claims.) Applicants' admitted prior art shows all of the elements recited in claims 173 and 182. The dependent claims 174-179 and 183-188, include limitations which are also shown in applicant's discussion of conventional memories or are inherent in such memory devices.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 153-156, 159, 163-165, 167, 171, 180, and 181 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

### ***Conclusion***


4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Independent claim 189 includes limitations directed to delay locked loop circuitry. Such limitations do not appear to be in the prior in combination with this sort of precharging system and would not have been obvious.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Glenn A. Auve whose telephone number is (703) 305-9638. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 - 5:30) First Friday Off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Wong can be reached on (703) 305-3477. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



Glenn A. Auve  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2181

gaa  
May 16, 2002